

**FV205-CS1**

**June 1999**

# **Commodity Specification**

## **Canned Juice**



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**I. General****A. U.S. Standards**

Canned juice (product/commodity) produced under this Commodity Specification must meet the requirements specified in the applicable United States Standards for Grades of canned juice (U.S. Standards) effective on the date of the Invitation for Offers to Sell (Invitation). The U.S. Standards are published separately (7 C.F. R. part 52) and are incorporated herein and made a part of this Commodity Specification.

**B. Exceptions to U.S. Standards**

Exceptions to the U.S. Standards for the Department of Agriculture (USDA) canned juice purchases are found in Section II, Individual Product Specifications, of this document. Additional exceptions may be specified in the applicable Invitation. Any exceptions contained in the applicable Invitation shall have precedence over the requirements contained herein, for that Invitation only.

**C. Product Origin**

1. Commodities delivered pursuant to this Commodity Specification shall have originated from crops that have been 100 percent grown, processed, and packed in the United States, its territories or possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, (hereinafter referred to as the United States). See Section I.F. of Announcement FV-205.
2. If the contractor handles any commodity originating from sources other than the United States, the contractor must have a written plan to segregate the commodity. This segregation plan will include an identification and record system for all commodities to ensure they are completely segregated and cannot be used to fulfill contracts awarded by USDA. Such segregation plan must be made available, within 10 calendar days of contract award, to representatives of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).
3. The contractor must maintain positive written documentation records evidencing 100 percent domestic origin down to the grower level. Contractors must also ensure that the documentation provided by any sub-contractors demonstrates the same level of traceability. The burden of proof of compliance is on the contractor.  
Documentation may include load or warehouse storage receipts for raw product (i.e., bin tags), product blend (formulation) records, product coding explanations, finished product warehousing records, shipping or payment records, or other documentation or evidence that clearly establishes the product's domestic origin.

4. Contractors must provide the domestic origin certification and supporting documentation records to representatives of the AMS Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Processed Products Branch (USDA Grader) when requesting inspection service. USDA Graders will select and review at least one code for each contract to determine compliance with the Agency's domestic origin requirements.
5. Such records must be available for review by the Government in accordance with Article 76 of USDA-1. In the event of an audit, AMS auditors will examine as many codes as is necessary to verify compliance.
6. Self-certifications by contractors and sub-contractors will not be accepted.
7. Failure to observe this requirement may lead to suspension or debarment, contract termination, and penalties at Title 18, Section 1001 of the U.S. Code concerning falsification of information.

**D. Manufacturing Practices****1. Good Manufacturing Practices**

All canned juice must be produced in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration's Good Manufacturing Practices (21 C.F.R., Part 110).

**2. Plant Audit**

Successful bidders are required to undergo an annual plant survey.

The primary purpose of conducting a plant survey is to ensure that the contractor produces products in a clean, sanitary environment. Contractors are required to maintain process operations records that are sufficiently detailed as to allow the Processed Products Branch (PPB), AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, to determine past and current sanitation practices.

The PPB will conduct the plant surveys. PPB personnel will follow the procedures found in the most current version of PPB File Code 159-A-1, Plant Sanitation. Contractors must provide the Contracting Officer with a copy of an acceptable completed survey. An acceptable plant survey will be valid for one year.

Contractors who have a PPB inspector in-plant through a contract service agreement will be considered to have met the plant survey requirement, since a plant survey is a prerequisite to a contract service agreement. Similarly, contractors who have completed a PPB plant survey for any other purpose within one year of the award will also be deemed to have satisfied this requirement.

Completion of the plant survey prior to the submission of a bid is suggested, but not required. If a firm submitting a bid receives an award, and has not had a plant survey within the past year, it must provide proof of an acceptable plant survey not later than 10 business days from the date of the contract. Failure to provide this documentation within the proper time frame may result in the contract being terminated for default.

**E. Packing Season**

All canned juice must be from the current packing season/crop year, unless otherwise specified in the applicable Invitation.

**F. Holding Period**

No shipment of canned juice may be made earlier than 14 days after packing.

**G. Grades of Canned Juices**

All canned juice must be U.S. Grade A (as defined in the U. S. Standard) unless otherwise specified in Section II, Individual Product Specifications, herein or the applicable Invitation.

**H. Fill of Container**

1. Contractor must meet the fill of container for the product as specified in the applicable U.S. Standard unless otherwise indicated herein. Each container must be filled as full as practicable. The product must occupy at least 90 percent of the container.
2. The average fill of container must meet the fill of container as printed on the label.

**I. Packing, Labels and Packaging**

1. Primary Containers (cans)

All products must be packed in new, commercially acceptable primary containers (cans). Canned juice shall be packed only in 46 fluid ounce size cans, (No. 3 cylinder, 404 x 700) unless otherwise specified in the applicable Invitation.

The cans must be suitably code-marked so that the product can be identified with related inspection certificates.

## 2. Can Labels

- (a) USDA can labels are shown in Exhibits 1-1 through 1-6. The wording and design of the labels is restricted to that shown in the exhibit. The labels must be printed in ink of the color specified, on commercially acceptable, white paper stock.
- (b) Fortified Juices: When fortification of the juice is required in the applicable Invitation, fortification information must be included in the Nutrition Information Panel of the primary container label.
- (c) Juices from concentrate: The product name for the juice from concentrate shall be stated on the primary container label as:

(Applicable Juice Name)  
From Concentrate  
(Unsweetened)

The words "From Concentrate" shall not be less than 1/2 the size of the product name.

## 3. Secondary Container (case) Markings

The cans shall be further enclosed within new, corrugated fiberboard cartons (cases) acceptable by common or other carriers for safe transportation to destinations. Flaps, gaps and other openings may not exceed one inch and must be fully glued or sealed with tape. If tape is used in lieu of glue, it must be clear and of commercially acceptable width and strength. The tape must extend at least two inches down the sides or ends.

Cases must be marked in such a manner that they contain all of the symbols, statements and information contained in Exhibit 2, "Required Markings for Shipping Containers."

Cases may be marked by printing or stenciling or by preprinted, self-adhesive stickers. Self-adhesive stickers must be affixed to the case in such a manner that they cannot be removed intact.

Exact arrangement and adherence to font size is not required. The case markings must be clearly marked, easily read, and substantially the same as specified in Exhibit 2.

Exhibit 3 shows an alternative placard that may be applied to a new, corrugated fiberboard case acceptable by common or other carriers for safe transportation to

destinations. This placard must be affixed to the case in such a manner that it cannot be removed intact.

Cases must have the recycling statement shown in Exhibit 6, "Please Recycle" Symbol and Statement or Exhibit 7, "Corrugated Recycles" Symbol and Statement.

**J. Universal Product Codes (UPC)**

Primary label and shipping container Universal Product Codes for USDA products are listed in Exhibit 5. The Contractor's UPC is not acceptable. The primary container UPC must be positioned on the can label as shown in Exhibit 1. The shipping container UPC must be marked on the case as shown in Exhibit 2.

**K. Palletization Requirements****1. Pallets**

Product must be on 40 X 48 inch, non-reversible, flush stringer, and partial four-way entry. New pallets must be good quality wood. Used pallets must be No.1 hardwood or its equivalent in new softwood. If pallet exchange is desired, the contractor shall arrange for pallet exchange with consignees. USDA is in no way responsible for arrangement of pallet exchange.

**2. Unitization**

Each delivery unit of canned juice must be unitized. Shipping cases must be stacked and secured from top to bottom, so that each container and layer of containers becomes an integral part of the pallet. Either stretch wrapping with plastic film or "lock 'n pop" is acceptable.

**II. Individual Commodity Specifications**

All lots shall have a minimum average net content of 46.0 fluid ounces. No individual container in the sample shall have a net content less than 45.0 fluid ounces.

**A. Apple Juice**

1. Grade: U.S. Grade A, canned apple juice, clear.
2. Vitamin C Requirement: The requirement of fortification with Vitamin C will be specified in each Invitation when issued. When fortification is required, the finished product shall be fortified to contain at least 34 milligrams of Vitamin C (ascorbic acid) per 100 milliliters of apple juice. (Label indications of Vitamin C fortification are required, see I. 2. (b))



**B. Grapefruit Juice**

1. Grade: U.S. Grade A, unsweetened, single strength grapefruit juice and grapefruit juice from concentrate. (Label indications of grapefruit juice from concentrate are required, see I. 2. (c))

**C. Orange Juice**

1. Grade: U.S. Grade A, unsweetened, canned orange juice or orange juice from concentrate and the following special grade requirements.
2. Special Grade Requirements:
  - (a) Canned orange juice will require a minimum color equal to USDA OJ 6, a minimum Brix-Acid Ratio of 15.0 to 1, a maximum Brix-Acid Ratio of 20.5 to 1, and a minimum Brix of 11.0 degrees.
  - (b) Canned orange juice from concentrate will require a minimum color equal to USDA OJ 5, a minimum Brix-Acid Ratio of 15.0 to 1, a maximum Brix-Acid Ratio of 20.5 to 1, and a minimum Brix of 11.8 degrees. (Label indications of orange juice from concentrate are required, see I. 2. (c))

**D. Grape Juice**

1. Grade: U.S. Grade A, Style I (unsweetened), Type I (Concord) canned grape juice and the special grade requirements. (Label indications of grape juice from concentrate are required, see I. 2. (c))
2. The grade of grape juice from concentrate shall be equivalent to the analytical and quality requirements of U.S. Grade A, Style I (unsweetened), Type I (concord) canned grape juice and the following special grade requirements.
3. Special Grade Requirements:
  - (a) Canned grape juice and grape juice from concentrate shall meet the color requirements of U.S. Grade B or better and will require a minimum Brix-Acid Ratio of 16 to 1. The grape juice shall be free of astringency. The presence of crystals in any lot of juice shall be considered a defect and shall result in rejection of the lot.
4. Vitamin C Requirement: The finished product shall be fortified to contain at least 34 milligrams of Vitamin C (ascorbic acid) per 100 milliliters of

grape juice. (Label indications of Vitamin C fortification are required, see I. 2. (b))

**E. Pineapple Juice**

1. Grade: The grade of pineapple juice shall meet the identity and quality requirements of U.S. Grade A, unsweetened, single strength pineapple juice or pineapple juice from concentrate. (Label indications of pineapple juice from concentrate are required, see I. 2. (c))
2. Vitamin C Requirement. The requirement of fortification with Vitamin C will be specified in each Invitation when issued. When fortification is required, the finished product shall be fortified to contain at least 34 milligrams of Vitamin C (ascorbic acid) per 100 milliliters of pineapple juice. (Label indications of Vitamin C fortification are required, see I. 2. (b))

**F. Tomato Juice**

1. Grade. The grade of tomato juice delivered under this Announcement shall meet the identity and quality requirements of U.S. Grade A, unsweetened, single strength tomato juice or tomato juice from concentrate. (Label indications of tomato juice from concentrate are required, see I. 2. (c))
2. Vitamin C Requirement: The fortification with Vitamin C will be specified in each Invitation when issued. When fortification is required, the finished product shall be fortified to contain at least 34 milligrams of Vitamin C (ascorbic acid) per 100 milliliters of tomato juice. (Label indications of Vitamin C fortification are required, see I. 2. (b))

### **III. Inspection and Checkloading**

**A. Requirements**

**NOTE: USDA inspection shall be made during on-line production of the product.**

Representatives of the AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Processed Products Branch (USDA Grader) must perform the inspection and checkloading required by Articles 54 and 55 of USDA-1.

Inspection of canned products must be performed not more than 90 days prior to shipment. Whether each lot offered meets the product and container requirements of the contract must be determined on the basis of representative sample units. Representative sample units will be graded according to the Regulations Governing Inspection and

Certification of Canned Fruits and Vegetables and Related Products (7 C.F.R. part 52), and United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers (7 C.F.R. part 42.140), effective on the date of the Invitation.

**B. Certification**

Subject to Articles 54 and 55 of USDA-1, the acceptability of the quality, volume, packaging, and checkloading of the product must be evidenced by certificates issued by the USDA Grader.

No product shall be shipped unless the USDA Grader informs the Contractor that a designated lot is acceptable. Notice by the USDA Grader that a designated lot scheduled for shipment does not meet requirements of the contract shall constitute rejection of such lot.

**C. Procedures****1. Scheduling Inspection Service**

The Contractor must give the USDA Grader at least 7 business days advance notice when scheduling inspection service.

**2. Laboratory Tests**

The Contractor must allow 14 days after product sampling for laboratory tests, when required, to be completed and returned.

**IV. Failure to Meet Specifications**

Any lot which fails applicable specifications prescribed herein, as determined by the USDA Grader, will be rejected as not acceptable for delivery, except as noted in A or B below. If any lot of canned juice fails to meet the product or packaging requirement noted below, the Contractor may request in writing that USDA accept delivery of the lot. USDA may, at its option, accept delivery, provided that the purchase price is the contract price less the minimum discount specified, depending upon the reason(s) for the failure to meet specifications.

**A. Product**

## 1. Fill or Net Volume Deficiency

## (a) Average Volume Deficiency:

If any lot fails average fill volume or low adjusted net volume, the discount will be twice the percentage by which the lot fails to meet the minimum required volume.

Example: Fill required for a given container is 46.0 fluid ounces. The average content for a given lot of product is 45.5 fluid ounces. Such lot is then 0.5 ounces, or 1.09 percent (.0109) below the required net volume. The purchase price for such lot would be the contract price less a discount of 2.18 percent (.0218) of such price.

## (b) Individual Volume Deficiency:

If any lot fails requirements for low individual fill volume or low adjusted net volume the discount must be one percent (.01) of the contract price.

## (c) Combination of Average and Individual Volume Deficiency

If any lot fails because of a combination of both (a) and (b) above, the discount must be whichever of the individual discounts is greater.

**B. Packaging**

## 1. Primary Container (Can) Markings

(a) Incorrect Volume Statement: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.

(b) Incorrect Serving Size: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.

(c) Incorrect Nutritional Information: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.

(d) Incorrect UPC Code: Subject to a one (1) percent discount.

## 2. Secondary Container (Case) Markings

(a) Missing Contract Number: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.

(b) Missing "Not to be Sold or Exchanged" Statement: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.

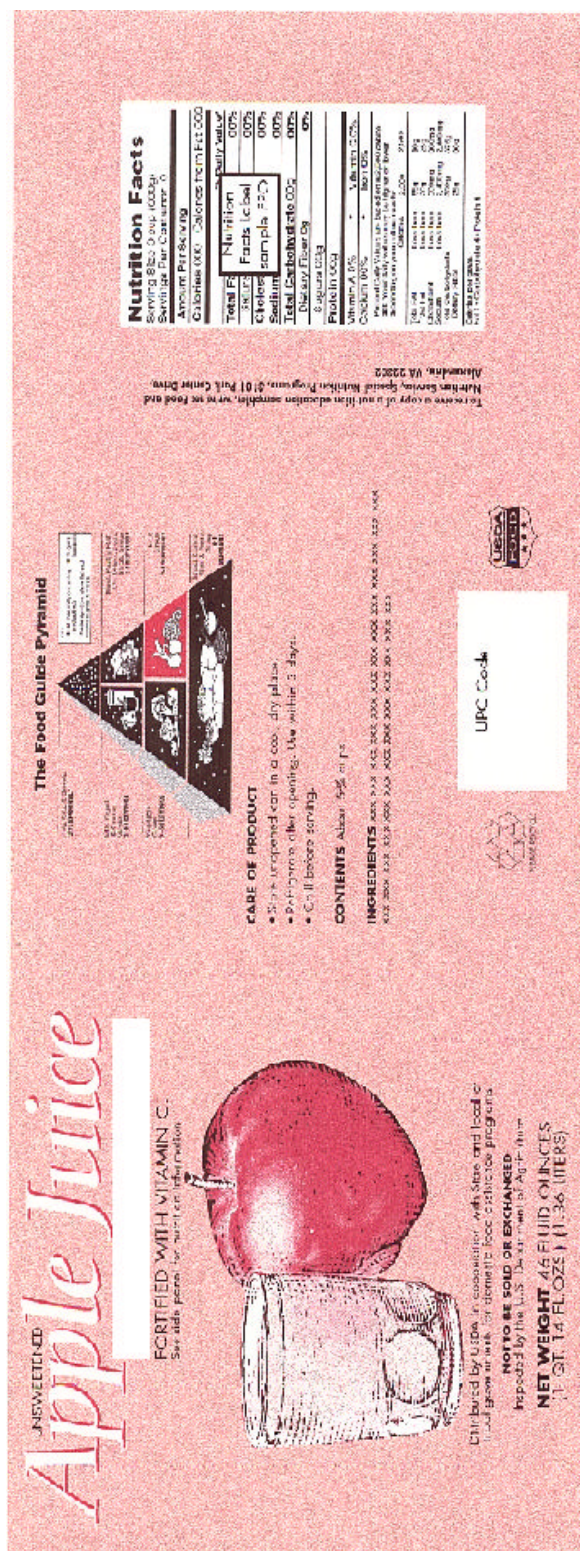
- (c) Missing “Distributed by USDA in Cooperation with State and Local or Tribal Governments for Domestic Food Assistance Programs” Statement: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.
- (d) Missing Pack Date: Subject to a one (1) percent discount.
- (e) Incorrect or missing UPC Code: Subject to a one (1) percent discount.
- (f) Missing ‘USDA Shield’: Subject to a one (1) percent discount.
- (g) Missing ‘Recycle Symbol’: Subject to a one (1) percent discount.

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Susan E. Proden  
Contracting Officer  
Fruit and Vegetable Programs  
Agricultural Marketing Service

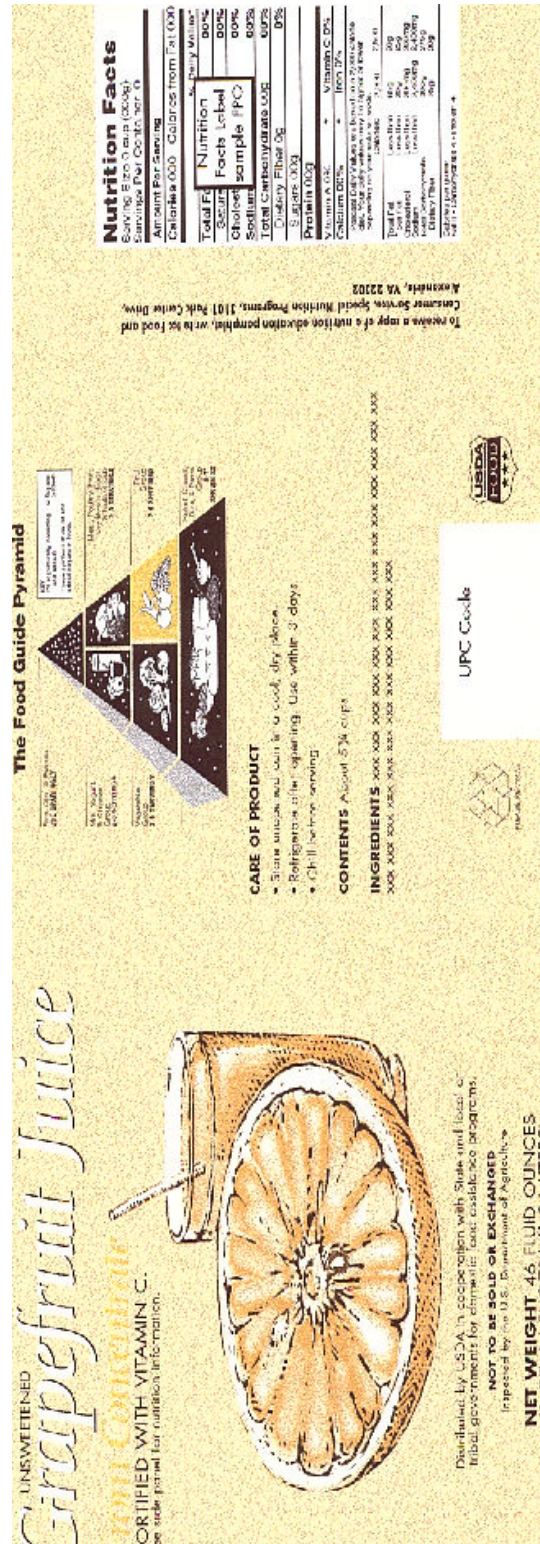
**V. Exhibits**

**Exhibit 1-1**  
**Can Label for Canned Apple Juice, 46 oz. size**

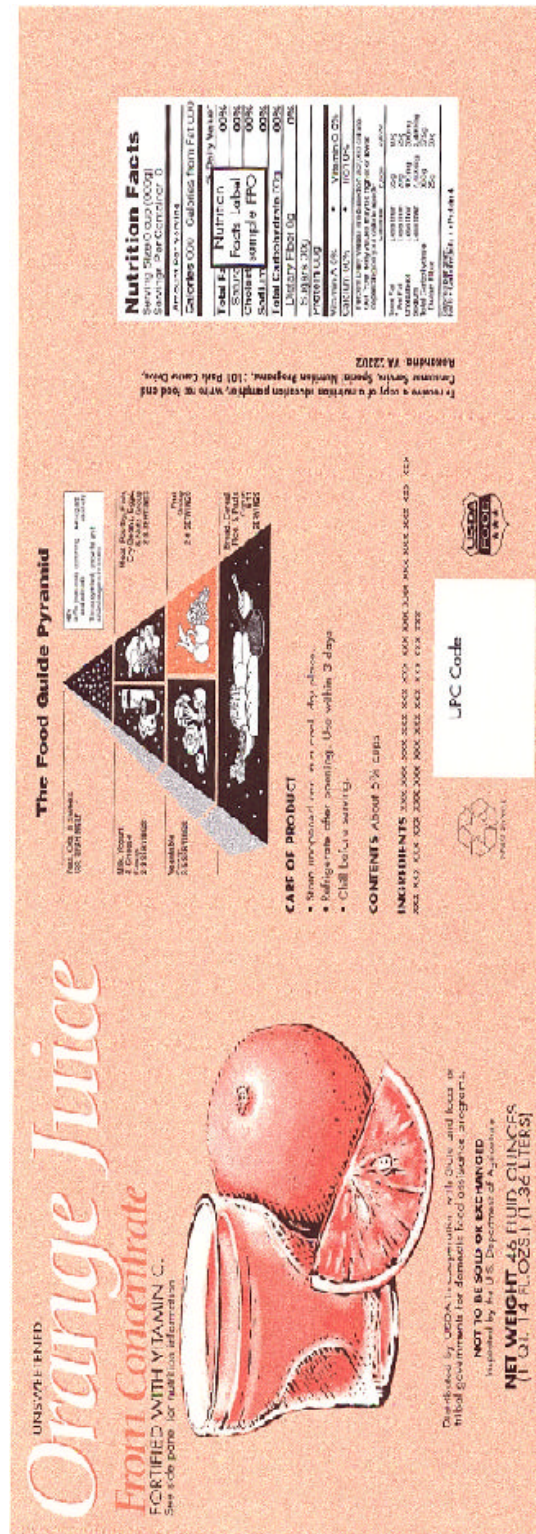




**Exhibit 1-2**  
**Can Label for Canned Grapefruit Juice, 46 oz. size**

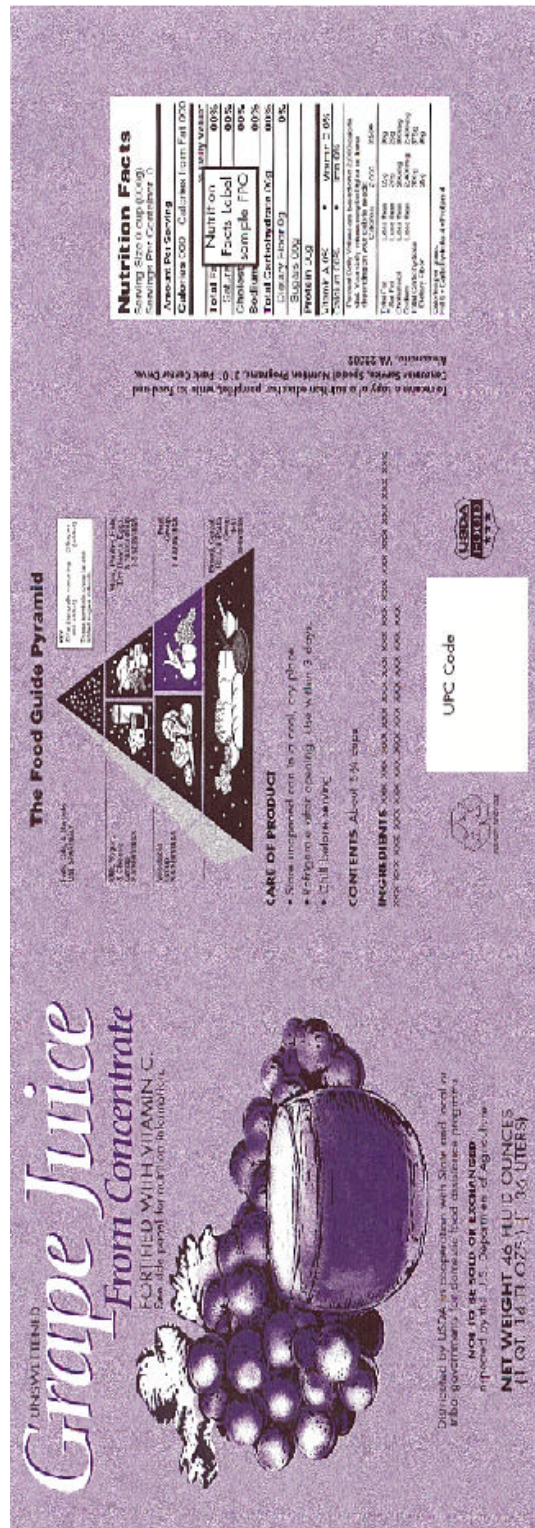


**Exhibit 1-3**  
**Can Label for Canned Orange Juice, 46 oz. Size**



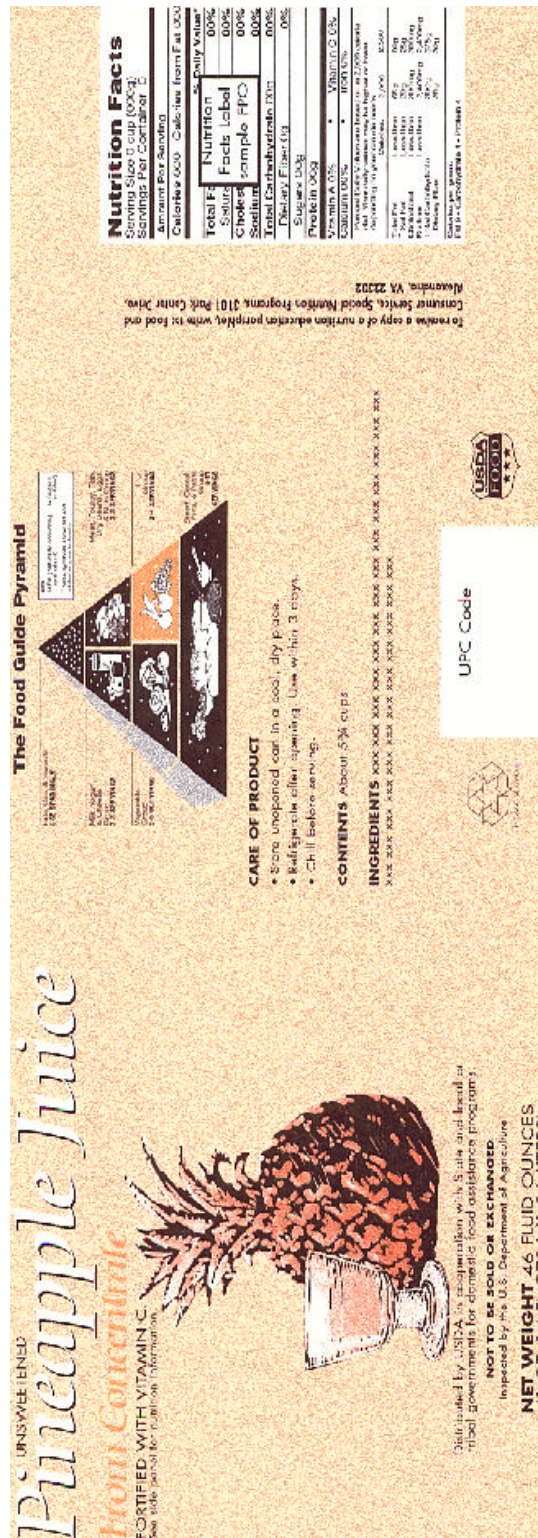


**Exhibit 1-4**  
**Can Label for Canned Grape Juice, 46 oz. size**



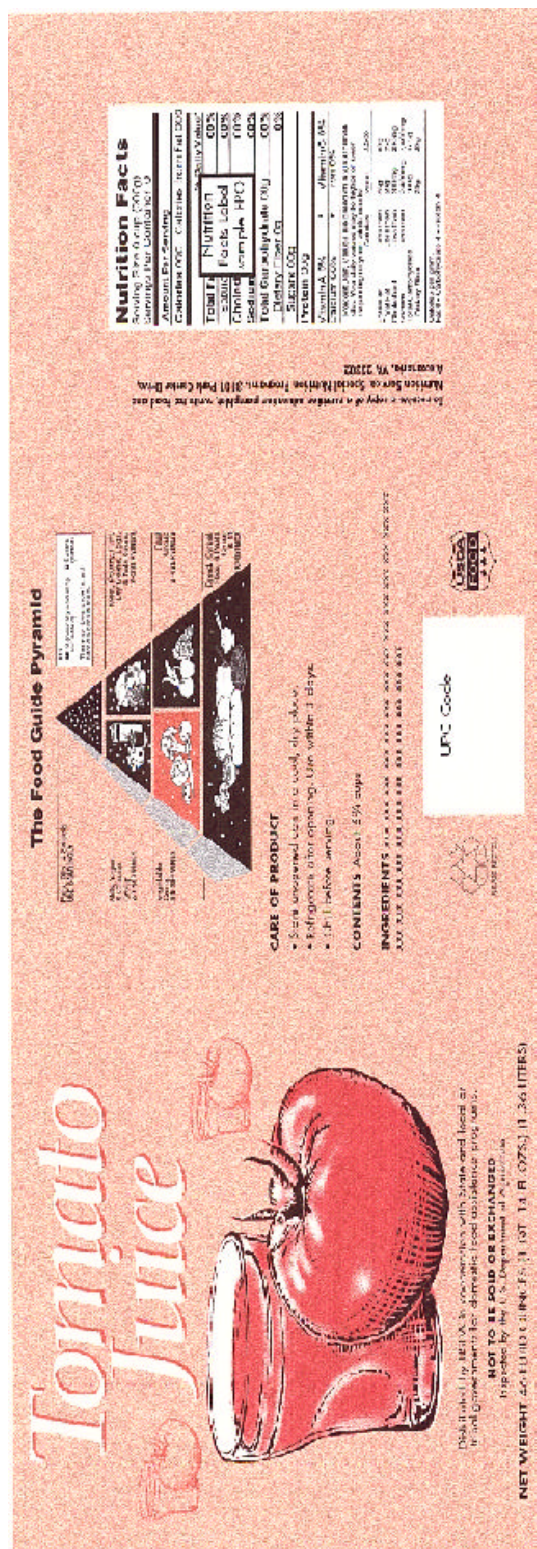
### Exhibit 1-5

### Can Label for Canned Pineapple Juice, 46 oz. size





**Exhibit 1-6**  
**Can Label for Canned Tomato Juice, 46 oz. size**



**Exhibit 2**  
**Required Markings for Shipping Containers**  
**ALL PRINTING TO BE IN BLACK INK**

<u>BOTH SIDE PANELS</u>	<u>BOTH END PANELS</u>
PRODUCT NAME	PRODUCT NAME
1/	CONTRACT NO. 3/
2/	PACKED IN 4/ BY
	5/
USDA SYMBOL	6/
	7/
DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS	
NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED STORE IN COOL, DRY PLACE	

Product name must be printed or stenciled on a separate line in letters approximately three-fourths inch high, and all other information must be in letters less than three-fourths inch but clearly legible. The USDA Food Symbol must be printed, stamped, or labeled and be of sufficient size to stand out prominently. Case markings must be limited to case codes and those contained in this Exhibit.

- 1/ Insert any additional product style, pack, packing media, or further definition as applicable; (i.e. Freestone, Yellow, Cut, Chopped, etc.).
- 2/ Insert the size and number of packages per case, i.e. 6 /No. 10 cans, 6/5 pound bags, 12/46 ounce cans, 1/25 pound bag.
- 3/ Insert the last five digits of contract number.
- 4/ Insert month and year packed (the first month of packing season is acceptable).
- 5/ Insert name of Packer and Packer's Address - City, State, and Zip Code. This information can be placed on the end panels or the side panels.
- 6/ Insert Universal Product Code (see Exhibit "5").
- 7/ Vendors who have proper certification are encouraged to place the universally recognized Kosher symbol here.

**Exhibit 3**  
**Alternative Label for Shipping Containers**  
(Includes all Required Information)



**Product Name**

**Size/Number per case**

**Contract Number xxxxx**

**Packed in: Month Year**

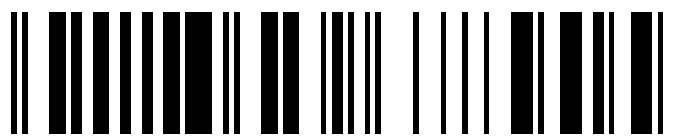
**Packed by: ABC Growers**

**Any Town, CA 99999**

**DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION  
WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL  
GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

**NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED**

**STORE IN A COOL DRY PLACE**



1234567891012345678910

Exhibit 4  
Sample Alternative Label for Shipping Containers



# Canned Apple Juice

**12/46 oz. cans**

**Contract Number 92000**

**Packed in: November 1999**

**Packed by: ABC Growers**

**Any Town, CA 99999**

**DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION  
WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL  
GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

**NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED**

**STORE IN A COOL DRY PLACE**



1 07 15001 01282 8

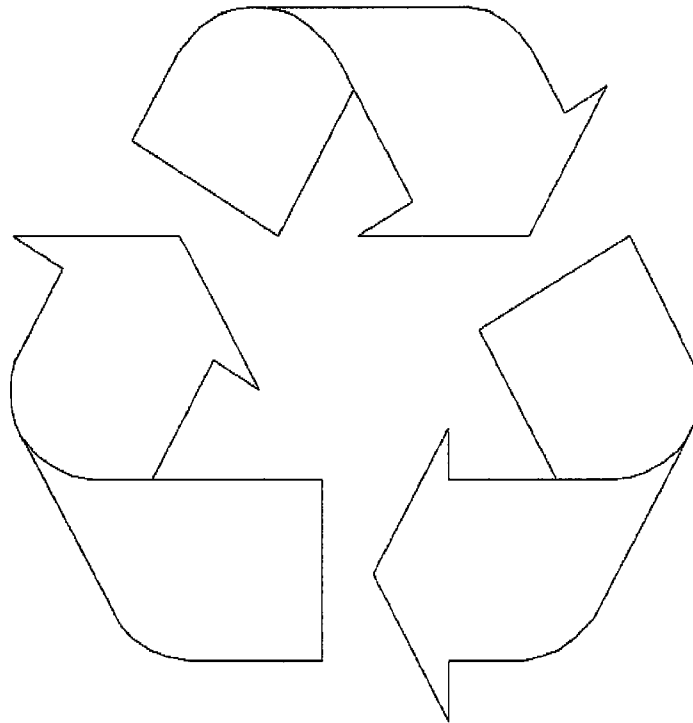
## Exhibit 5

## Universal Product Codes

Commodity	Primary Container Code	Shipping Container Code
Apple Juice	7 1500101282 1	1 07 15001 01282 8
Grape Juice	7 1500101285 2	1 07 15001 01285 9
Grapefruit Juice	7 1500101280 7	1 07 15001 01280 4
Orange Juice	7 1500101300 2	1 07 15001 01300 9
Pineapple Juice	7 1500101286 9	1 07 15001 01286 6
Tomato Juice	7 1500101290 6	1 07 15001 01290 3

**Exhibit 6**

**“Please Recycle” Symbol and Statement**



**PLEASE  
RECYCLE**



Exhibit 7

**“Corrugated Recycles” Symbol and Statement**



**Corrugated  
Recycles**

Exhibit 8

USDA Symbol

